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general to save a single man out of a bleeding mass which his cannon has shattered beyond recognition, the increasingly humane and Christian feeling which forces an army to care for the wounded on the other side and to treat decently its prisoners will some day make it as impossible to shoot men down in the first instance as it now is to stab them to death after they are wounded.

The "amenities" are a tribute to the ineradicable kindness of human nature, not to war; and this elemental spirit of kindness, under the liberating and sustaining power of Christian principle, is some day to become enthroned in all hearts so that the "amenities" will become universal and continuous, instead of being spasmodic and exceptional, and killing and maiming will entirely cease. Whoever has seen this truth must in conscience become at once and forever the brother of all men and the opposer of all war.

#### ASSASSINATION OF PRESIDENT CARNOT.

The assassination of the President of the French republic at Lyons on June 24th, by an Italian anarchist, Cesare Giovanni Santo, has cast a gloom over the whole civilized world. Coming so soon after the attempt on the life of Premier Crispi of Italy it has caused many to suppose the existence of a widespread plot to assassinate prominent men all over Europe. But this is probably not the case. These attempts to take away the lives of men in high positions are to be accounted for, most satisfactorily, by the extreme personal wickedness and unmitigated lawlessness of individuals who have gone mad with iniquity, urged on by the general talk in anarchist circles. They take advantage of the growing liberty and the decreasing repression of the time, to reek their spite and envy upon those who stand for law and order and who represent the thrift and industry which enable men to live in comfort and happiness. How much they are actuated by the spirit of revenge for the punishment of their ungodly colleagues it is impossible to determine. There is little room to doubt that the guillotining and hanging of anarchists exasperate others to greater deeds of violence, and that other methods of punishment more in harmony with the increasingly humane spirit of the age would be more effectively repressive than these.

President Carnot was much loved by the French people and highly respected abroad. He had presided over his country during a period of much agitation and considerable political uncertainty and in times of crisis he proved himself for the most part a wise and steady director. The whole French nation is stricken with sorrow and foreign sympathy with them is deep and sincere, especially so in the United States where we have in the last thirty years lost two of our noblest Presidents by the hand of the assassin. The fact that his murderer was an Italian ought not to produce any complications between France

and Italy. It could hardly have led to serious misunderstanding, even if a French mob had lynched Santo on the spot as seemed imminent for a few moments. Much less can such results follow, after the protection of the life of the assassin by French officers of the law. The Italian people all over the peninsula, except the anarchists, will hasten to condemn with all their heart the abominable crime, and we shall expect to see all the better elements of the two countries brought into greater mutual sympathy and friendliness in their common detestation of the heartless deed. If this result shall follow, it will be at least one sun-ray of relief cast on the otherwise totally black and heart-chilling event.

There is no reason to fear that the stability of the French republic to which Mr. Carnot contributed so much will be affected by his death. The people are too deeply in love with their present form of government to think of allowing any emergency like this to cause them to take any backward steps. Great as is the loss to the nation occasioned by the death of him who had been for nearly seven years its Chief Magistrate, some other capable man will speedily be found to take the leadership and the interests of the country will not suffer permanent injury.

The expressions of sympathy and grief which have been sent to Lyons from all over the civilized world have been truly remarkable and are an unmistakable evidence of the deepening international love and unity now beginning to prevail. In this general expression of sorrow and respect we most heartily join, and add our sincerest wish and prayer that the great calamity may be overruled by the Divine Providence so as to promote the highest good and truest greatness of the republic of France.

#### JUBILEE OF THE YOUNG MEN'S CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATION.

The Jubilee of the Young Men's Christian Association which took place in London the first days of June ought to be reckoned one of the chief events of this year. This Association interests us not chiefly because it is one of the many powerful agencies which are working out in a very efficient way the brotherhood of humanity and the peace of the world, though under this aspect of its work we may speak of it in the highest terms of commendation. It is a noble thing to see the Christian young men of the nations binding themselves together in tens of thousands into a great international union, which can not fail to contribute much to the unity, moral and spiritual, and hence to the general unity of the peoples of the world. But the Y. M. C. A. exists primarily for the salvation and Christian training of young men through young men themselves. It does its work in an earnest, straightforward but wholly unconventional manner, which enables it to win its way very effectively to the hearts of those whom it seeks to reach. One of the most admirable

features of the organization is its creation in our cities of beautiful religious and social centres, or rather homes, for the young men, where they are not only sheltered from, but also trained to resist the temptations which lie in wait for them at every street corner. The Y. M. C. A. buildings, many of which are noble specimens of architecture, are of vastly greater value to any city than its courthouse and jail, or than its reformatory institutions. The money invested in them by the citizens could not be more profitably spent.

The success of the Association since its organization by Mr. Williams fifty years ago has been great though it can hardly be called phenomenal. It has had a steady growth from year to year until it now has more than five thousand local organizations with a membership of nearly half a million. Many of the Associations are still small and struggling with difficulties, but they usually hold on and finally succeed in making themselves permanent. Public favor and public support are gradually becoming more pronounced, and the Association, we doubt not, has a yet much greater future before it. One can not look into our cities and see the stream of young men who are squandering all that they have, physical, intellectual and moral, in riotous living, at a rate which would put the prodigal son to blush, without feeling grateful in his heart of hearts for this grand institution of young men, and without wishing it every blessing for the future.

The jubilee has been a great success. Many prominent workers from different parts of the world were present, and eminent religious leaders of Great Britain gave the meetings the benefit and inspiration of their presence and speech.

### NOTES AND COMMENTS.

At a recent meeting of the Board of Directors of the American Peace Society, Hon. Robert Treat Paine, Dr. Philip S. Moxom, Hezekiah Butterworth, Mrs. Mary Frost Ormsby and Benjamin F. Trueblood were appointed delegates to attend the coming Peace Congress at Antwerp on the 29th of August. The President and Secretary were empowered to appoint as delegates other members of the Society who may be expecting to go to Europe this summer.

At the same meeting of the Directors the Secretary gave an account of a recent visit made by him to Washington and of an arrangement which had been made for the introduction into both Houses of Congress of a Resolution requesting the President to negotiate a twenty-five years' treaty of arbitration with Great Britain.

The Interparliamentary Peace Conference which is to open at The Hague on the 4th of September and last three days gives increasing promise of being the most impor-

tant meeting yet held by the Interparliamentary Union. Eminent men in all the European parliaments have already signified their intention to be present and participate in the proceedings. The various groups of members in the different countries are studying the questions to be brought before the Conference, and the Dutch Committee on organization is exerting itself zealously to make the Hague meeting a success.

Our readers will be glad to see the letter of Ambassador Bayard, on another page. No other envoy of the United States to the Court of St. James has more conscientiously and constantly used his influence on all proper occasions to deepen feelings of friendship between this country and Great Britain. This letter was written in reply to the resolution of commendation and approval passed at the recent annual meeting of the American Peace Society, and sent to Mr. Bayard.

The Peace Bureau at Berne, after having consulted all the peace societies of the world on the question of the proposed Truce in Europe, has issued an interesting report of the answers received. There is considerable divergence in the replies as to the details of methods to be adopted for bringing it about, but most of the societies heartily favor the Truce in a general way. The question is to be put on the program of the Antwerp Congress.

At the last of May a dinner was given at St. James Hall, London, to the officers of the United States cruiser, Chicago. At the plate of each guest was a souvenir book containing the portraits of the chief guests, and having on the illuminated cover this couplet:

"When love unites, wide space divides in vain,  
And hands may clasp across the spreading main."

In proposing a toast to the United States, Lord George Hamilton, who presided, said:

"I connect this toast with the sentiment of a great Englishman, now departed, who said: 'England and the United States are not two nations, but one, for they are bound together by Heaven's act of parliament and the everlasting law of nature and fact.'"

Ambassador Bayard, who was highly complimented by the President, responded to the toast, and expressed great gratification at the manner in which the toast had been received. Though there was doubtless some superficial sentiment manifested on the occasion, we have no doubt that the real feeling of growing friendship between the two countries was voiced in the speeches.

The United States Senate, by a vote of 55 to 0, has passed a resolution declaring that it, of right, belongs wholly to the people of the Hawaiian islands to establish and maintain their own form of government and domestic polity; that the United States ought not, in any way, to interfere therewith; and that any intervention in the